

No. R-45. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Vermont Jazz Center of Brattleboro on winning a 2014 Chamber Music America Acclaim Award.

(H.C.R.29)

Offered by: Representatives Burke of Brattleboro, Stuart of Brattleboro, and Toleno of Brattleboro

Whereas, the Vermont Jazz Center (VJC) originated in the Newfane home of guitarist Attila Zoller where he hosted informal jam sessions featuring prominent New York City jazz artists, and

Whereas, these initial musical encounters evolved into summer jazz workshops and ultimately were formalized as the VJC under Attila Zoller's dedicated leadership, and

Whereas, since 1997, pianist and current VJC Director Eugene Uman, his wife, Elsa Borrero, and VJC Board President Howard Brofsky have broadened the VJC's menu of musical activities to encompass a year-round schedule, including concerts, workshops, weekly jam sessions, jazz history classes, ensembles, outreach to local schools, and private lessons, and

Whereas, Chamber Music America (CMA) is an organization promoting all aspects of ensemble music performance, and since 2000, jazz has been prominent in its repertoire, and

Whereas, Chamber Music America's Acclaim Award honors lesser known organizations that have made "extraordinary cultural contributions in a locality or region" and is conferred annually on two deserving winners, and

Whereas, CMA was pleased to honor the VJC as a 2014 Acclaim Award recipient in recognition of its notable contribution to jazz education and performance in southeastern Vermont, and

Whereas, the Acclaim Award ceremony, held on October 18, 2014, at the VJC headquarter in Brattleboro, was a wonderful tribute to the organization and jazz, and

Whereas, the festivities featured a concert with MacArthur Award-winning Cuban jazz drum virtuoso Dafnis Prieto, a leader in the New Latin Jazz movement, and his Si o So Quartet that also includes saxophonist Peter Afelbaum, pianist Manuel Valera, and bassist Johannes Weidenmueller, and

Whereas, CMA Chief Executive Officer Margaret Lioi was the distinguished presenter of this special accolade, and local arts and civic leaders attended the celebration, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Vermont Jazz Center of Brattleboro on winning a 2014 Chamber Music America Acclaim Award, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Jazz Center.